



**Parks and Recreation Department Board Minutes
Tuesday, November 23, 2004
Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Parks Board was held on Tuesday, November 23, 2004 at the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office, 200 S. Lamar, Board Room.

Board members present: Leonard Lyons, Rosemary Castleberry, Linda Guerrero, Jeb Boyt, Clint Small, Jeff Francell, Hector Ortiz, Mark Vane and Marilyn Bostick.

Staff members present: Warren Struss, Tony Arnold, Farhad Madani, Mendy Marshall, Randy Scott, Kevin Gomillion and Tino Garcia.

A. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Castleberry at 6:30 p.m.

B. Approval of the Minutes

Board member Francell moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Board member Boyt. Motion passed 8-0 with Board member Ortiz abstaining.

C. Citizen Communication

N/A

D. Public Hearing

1. Hold a public hearing for food concession at Lions Municipal Golf Course

Mendy Marshall, Financial Consultant, reported that the Lions Municipal Golf Course food concession contract expires in February 2005. Prior to preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) the department is required to hold a public hearing. Signs were posted on site requesting citizen input. Since there was no input, the RFP will be let out during the next few weeks. Motion was made and seconded to close the public hearing. Unanimously approved.

E. Items for Action

1. Make a recommendation regarding the construction of a boat dock at 2802 Rivercrest Drive. Case number SP-03-0480 D

Board member Small reported that staff member Randy Scott reviewed the proposal for the boat dock but upon inspection determined that the dock was not built per the submitted plans. Since the dock is being built 10 feet from the property line a letter must be obtained from neighbors indicating that they are not in opposition to the building of the boat dock. Since the letter was received voicing no opposition Board member Small moved to approve the building permit for the construction of the dock at 2802 Rivercrest Drive. Board member Francell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Make a recommendation to Director regarding proposed Ordinance Amendment regulating Bow fishing on Town Lake.

Ten speakers were given three minutes to state their views on the Bow Fishing issue. The following speakers stated their opposition against the ban on bow fishing on Town Lake.

- Mark Malfa, 15109 Cavalier Canyon Dr.
- Jim von Walske, 2107 Lakeshore Dr. Vice- President, Texas Bow Fishing Association
- Tim McKee, Jarrell, Texas, President, Texas Bow Fishing Association

The following speakers stated their support of the ban on Bow Fishing on Town Lake.

- Cid Galindo, 411 Brazos St. #99 – Commissioner, Planning Commission
- Bruce Willenzik, 4428 Gillis Rd. Austin, Tx..
- Al St.Cyr, 107 Harrsion Oak Park, Illinois – Director, Product Development, Wacker Bait an Tackle
- David Moore, 2213 Skyline Dr. – Director, American Carp Society
- Gregg Morton, 1001 S. IH -35 – AAGA Operations Manager, Extended Stay America

Board member Small moved that the board not support the amendment to regulate Bow Fishing on Town Lake. Board member Ortiz seconded the motion. Discussion followed with board members also stating their views on the issue. Director Struss thanked the members of the audience for their participation in the process. He reminded everyone of the department's mission statement which is to provide, protect and preserve parks and recreation opportunities for all citizens. Motion carried 6-2, with board members Boyt and Guerrero voting against the motion.

F. Items for Information

N/A

G. Director's Report

Director Struss announced the upcoming activities for the month of December:

- Sunday December 5, 2004 is the 39th annual Tree Lighting ceremony which will start at 6:30 p.m. The board should arrive early.
- The 5K Jingle run will be held on December 11, 2004.
- The grand opening for the Trail of Lights will be held on December 12th at the Garden Center.
- The annual Parks Board retreat will be held December 14th from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the board room with supper being provided.
- The annual Christmas party will be held December 17th at the Givens Recreation Center starting at 11:00 am. All the board is invited.

H. Committee Reports

Programs Committee: Board member Guerrero reported on the Trail of Lights and the many Thanksgiving dinners held throughout the department. She announced that shuttle rides will be available for citizens going to the Trail of Lights. Board member Castleberry reminded all about the Tree Lighting and the Opening Night. The opening of the Carver is forthcoming and there was some talk about having a future board meeting there.

Land and Facilities Committee: Board member Boyt reported on the South Austin Tennis Center and reminded all that the City had approved bonds for the expansion of the tennis center in 1998. Currently there are 10 courts and the expansion would add an additional 8 courts. Some members of the neighborhood have grown accustomed to the undeveloped land surrounding the tennis courts and are now upset with the expansion. A report will be provided at the next Land and Facilities meeting to see if it is economically feasible to build a comparable 18 court facility elsewhere. The issue will come before the Board in January 2005.

Also discussed was the proposal for the Southwest Greenbelt. Butch Smith, Planner with the Planning Division will be asked to take a lead role in bringing the project to fruition.

Director Struss update all on the Cemetery issue and said Church and property owners surrounding the cemetery are addressing some issues in the hopes of reaching some consensus prior to coming before the board. Director Struss also updated the board on the boat races at Decker Lake. He reported that there are a number of concerns from the neighborhood at this time and because of this there is no council support.

Navigation Committee: Board member Small announced that they will be bringing forth a draft of guidelines on boat docks and bulkheads.

I. Items from Board Members

Board member Francell asked for authorization to work with a group of boaters regarding the boat ban on Barton Creek. There is current data available that addresses safe water levels in which to boat but would like to see that future boat bans be triggered by the approved safe water levels. Director Struss reported that the department was already addressing the issue and asked Acting Assistant Director Madani to provide an update. Mr. Madani reported that a draft policy has been developed outlining procedures on banning boating on the lakes and creeks. The policy is based on a CFS level of 1500.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.